

ITEM: 18

SUBJECT: Quincy Community Services District, Quincy Wastewater Treatment Plant, Plumas County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal and Cease and Desist Order*

BACKGROUND: Quincy Community Services District (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Quincy Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereafter Facility). The Discharger provides sewerage service for the communities of Quincy and East Quincy, which have populations of approximately 1,879 and 2,572, respectively. The facility average dry weather flow design capacity is 1.6 mgd. Secondary treated effluent from the Facility is discharged to Spanish Creek via Clear Stream. The Discharger is in the process of designing/constructing a new discharge point, approximately 800 feet upstream of the confluence of Clear Stream and Spanish Creek; the new discharge point will allow the Discharger to discharge effluent via a diffuser directly to Spanish Creek and bypass Clear Stream.

The existing NPDES permit has effluent limitations for copper, lead, and silver. Review of the last three years of effluent/receiving water data, indicated that there is still reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives for copper and lead. Additionally, new ammonia and electrical conductivity effluent limitations will be included in the permit renewal. The Discharger is unable to immediately comply with the effluent limitations for copper; therefore, an interim limit and a compliance schedule are included in a Cease and Desist Order. Also, the Discharger is unable to immediately comply with ammonia effluent limits; therefore, an interim limit and a compliance schedule are included in the permit.

Public comments on the proposed permit were received from the Central Valley Clean Water Association after the deadline date; minor changes have been made to the proposed permit in response to the comments received.

ISSUES: The main issues for the renewal are: the new ammonia and electrical conductivity limits and the revised copper and lead effluent limits. Another issue is the proposed Cease and Desist Order which includes a five year compliance schedule for copper.

RECOMMENDATION Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review_____

Legal Review_____

18 March 2010

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